GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:56
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
DUMPING OF UNFIT FOODGRAINS
AJAY CHAKRABORTY;SUKENDER REDDY GUTHA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge foodgrains stocks are rotting in Government warehouses and in the godowns of Food Corporation of India and are no more fit for human consumption;

(b) if so, the quantity of such foodgrains as on 31.12.1999, 31.12.2000 and as on date alongwith the reasons thereof;

(c) the details of corrective steps initiated to stop its recurrence;

(d) whether the Government have decided to dump the unfit foodgrains into the sea to avoid storage problem;

(e) whether any re-assessment about the fitness of unfit foodgrains was made;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof;
(g) the persons responsible for this poor maintenance; and
(h) the action taken by the Government against them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f),(g) & (h) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f),(g) & (h) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 56 FOR ANSW IN THE LOK SABHA ON 23.02.2001.

(a) & (b) : The stocks of foodgrains held by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) are divided into two categories, i.e., Issuable stocks and Non-issuable stocks. Issuable stocks are fit for human consumption whereas Non-issuable stocks are unfit for human consumption. As on 31.12.2000, the FCI had a quantity of 1.59 lakh MTs of Non-issuable foodgrains out of a total stock of 257.69 lakh MTs. On 31.12.1999, the quantity of Non-issuable foodgrains available with the FCI was 1.62 lakh MTs.

(c) The FCI undertakes storage of foodgrains on scientific lines. Various prophylactic an curative measures are undertaken to avoid deterioration in quality.

(d) Non-issuable stocks are categorized as Feed-I, Feed-II, Feed-III, Industrial use, manure and dumping. There is a set procedure for disposal of these stocks. The stocks meant for dumping are first offered to the State Governments and, in case no response is received within 10 days, the same are to be dumped in the premises of the FCI or outside the Municpallimits, at the expense of the FCI, through a Committee appointed for the purpose.

(e) & (f) : Foodgrain stocks beyond PFA standards and unfit for human consumption are not upgradable and, hence, not reassessed.

(g) & (h) : Whenever it is found that the stocks were damaged due to negligence on the part of certain officers/officials, suitable action is taken against them as per the rules and regulations of the FCI.